

June, 2003

# The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of La Crosse Newsletter

*Note: In June, July, and August we will meet only on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. All meetings will begin at our regular meeting time (9:30 AM) and be held at the Senior Center, unless noted otherwise.*

**Sunday Services:** Program at **9:30 AM** followed by refreshments at **10:45 AM**, Southside Senior Center, 1220 Denton Street, La Crosse, WI  
**Fellowship Mailing Address:** PO Box 2676, La Crosse, WI 54602-2676  
**Message Center:** 608-796-9993      **Web site:** www.uulacrosse.org

## Upcoming Programs

**June 8 – “Taking Action Against Hunger.”** Joanne Richmond, Executive Director of the Hunger Task Force (HTF) will share information about the mission and programs of the HTF and how this fits in with the UU Principles. She will also invite us to join HTF in this mission.

**June 22 – “Marsh Walk.”** Melinda Knutson, a biologist with the USGS Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center will lead a walk through the La Crosse River Marsh in Myrick Park. **Meet at 9:30 AM in lower Myrick Park**, near the Marsh Trail entrance. Come prepared to walk and to share some connections to parts of the interdependent web that you may not have connected with lately.

## Choir News

By Becky Post

The choir will have its annual potluck/first rehearsal of the season on Tuesday, August 26th. It will be at Becky's house ( ) at 6:00 PM. Please bring a dish



to pass. We'll eat first and then begin to work on some music for the fall season.

This would be a good time for new singers to try out the choir. Lots of good voices have been heard at the Sunday meetings and at the karaoke mic at the Memorial weekend picnic! Come and have fun singing with us!

## Summer Focus Dinners!

The Long Range Planning Committee will be having another round of Focus Dinners this summer. The first one is scheduled on June 21st, at 5:30 PM at Becky Post's. If you would like to attend this potluck, please respond to Kathy Schnitzius by phone: , or e-mail:

. The topics for this round will be to revise our Vision Statement and short term goals.

The other Focus Dinner Dates have not been firmed up. We will let you know by mail when they are. We would like every member of the Fellowship to attend one of these Summer Focus Dinners in order to get your input.

Sarah Senior Recital  
Voice and Piano  
Friday, June 13, 2003 at 7:00 PM  
Annett Recital Hall in the UW-L  
Center for the Arts, 15th and Badger  
All UUs are cordially invited.  
Please RSVP at

## **Sandberg-Novack Survivor Party**

Come celebrate with us! We are having a survivor party! What did we survive? Well, Phil survived cancer surgery and radiation treatments. He had another birthday during that time, but wasn't up to celebrating--so it's a belated Happy Birthday too.

We also survived putting our daughter, Amy through 5 years of college! Yes, she graduated with a BS degree in software engineering! And got a job in Milwaukee & we survived finding her an apartment and moving her there. Also her birthday is June 9th. So we have lots of happy events to celebrate. We are having an **Open House on Saturday, June 14th from 2:00 PM until 6:00 PM**. We will have food & drink & fun.

And we will survive this party too! Please join us!

-Phil Sandberg, Jean Novack & Amy Sandberg-

### **Transfigurations comes to the Frederick Theater at UW-L**

Pride Along the Mississippi proudly presents *Transfigurations* on June 13, 2003 at 8:00 PM in the Frederick Theater, UW-La Crosse, Room 100 Morris Hall, State Street and 16th. Tickets are \$10.00 and will be available at the door the night of the play. They may also be reserved by calling (608) 791-9084. This is a fundraiser for Pride Along the Mississippi. *Transfigurations* is a reader's theater production by Delta Ferguson and Eliza Roaring Springs. *Transfigurations* focuses on the challenges and dilemmas faced by transgendered people.

*Transfigurations* was first presented during the 1998 Gay Pride Day in Eugene, Oregon. This play is truly transformative for the audience. *Transfigurations* begins a process of education and growth for transgendered people, their families and friends, social service and health professionals, police and the general population.

A post-show discussion will be moderated by Debra Davis, Executive Director of the Gender Education Institute, a Minnesota-based advocacy and education organization working towards understanding, acceptance and support for the GLBT communities with an emphasis on transgender issues.

### **Needed: Substitute Sunday Coordinator**

A substitute Sunday Coordinator is needed to take the place of Sarah Kraemer who will be leaving for college in the fall. The duties are to periodically sub for Greg Dihlmann-Malzer when he is unable to attend on a Sunday. This includes getting the keys, opening at 8:30 AM, being sure that everything is set up for the service, being sure that everything is cleaned up and put away after the service, and locking up. Other duties may be included depending on the circumstances. Pay is \$10.00/hour.

Please call or e-mail Kathy Schnitzius if you are interested or have questions. phone: \_\_\_\_\_, e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Concordia Ballroom Get-Together for Peace and Justice**

The La Crosse Coalition for Peace and Justice is sponsoring a get-together at the Concordia Ballroom, Friday, June 27.

They have the ballroom and kitchen from 4:00 PM to midnight on June 27th.

Musician James Grant has volunteered to perform. A craft table for children is planned, and poets and speakers will also be asked to come.

The purpose of the gathering will be to bring more people into the movement, to educate, and to get people who are interested in peace and justice together for the evening.

Members of the La Crosse Coalition for Peace and Justice will provide food, and admission will be free, but donations will be appreciated.

The Coalition is also looking for volunteers to help with this. For more information or to offer assistance of any kind e-mail wapm@hbc.com.

### **New Expense Forms Available**

*By Margaret Dihlmann-Malzer*

There is a new Expense form available to use when requesting reimbursement for money spent for the Fellowship. There will be a stack of these forms available at the Senior Center. In addition, a copy will be available on our Web site, [www.uulacrosse.org](http://www.uulacrosse.org) for those wishing to print it out at home. As always, we ask that you attach receipts to verify your expenses. The form can then be given/sent to the Treasurer (Margaret Dihlmann-Malzer) for reimbursement.

### **New Mailboxes to Aid Contact with Business Manager**

*By Margaret Dihlmann Malzer*

There are new mailboxes in the upstairs storage room (attached to the small RE room) at the Senior Center. Currently there are In, Out and Request boxes for our Business Manager, Helen Fricke. Helen will be checking the mailboxes regularly. If you put something in that is High Priority, send her an e-mail at \_\_\_\_\_ or leave a phone message for her at the \_\_\_\_\_ to let her know. If this system works, we may add mailboxes for other staff and volunteers, e.g. the coordinator, newsletter editor, president, or treasurer.

### **Upcoming Meetings**

The next Board of Trustees meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 12 at 11:30 AM at Margaret Dihlmann-Malzer's house. (Lunch to be ordered out.)

The Membership Committee will meet Sunday, June 8th after the service.

### **Committee Reports Requested**

Committee chairs are requested to send committee reports to Board Secretary Ingrid Iverson as soon as possible before the Board's June 12 meeting.

### **Theology Discussion Group**

The Theology Discussion Group will continue to meet on the fourth Sunday of each month through the summer. The topic for our June 22 meeting is the nature of evil.

***Congratulations to Sarah \_\_\_\_\_, who graduated in the top five percent of her Central High School class.***

### **Monthly Caregiver**

The Caregiver sends cards and flowers to Fellowship members and friends as needed, and helps pass on the word if someone needs cheer or support.

If you know of any member who is ill, has suffered a loss, or is having a rough time and could use cheering, please let the Caregiver know. Fellowship members don't always know of other members' difficulties, but we would like to extend a hand to any of our members and friends in need, so please let us know about your hardships, as well as the joys in your lives.

*The June Caregiver is Lisa Metz-Belzer,*

### **Severson Donates Hair**

Congratulations to Jo Severson, who recently donated about 90 percent of her hair to Locks of Love, which makes free human-hair wigs for kids who have lost their hair for medical reasons. She got the idea from the comic strip "Zits," in which one of the characters donates her long hair to Locks of Love. For more information, go to <<locksoflove.org>>.

### **Our Shared Vision**

Again this month we share vision statements that were provided in last summer's planning survey. As you read these vision statements, think about your own vision for the Fellowship. What elements do share in common with these visions? In what ways do you differ? Do the differences lead you to consider things you had not thought of before?

j *My vision would be an aesthetically pleasant home of our own. There is an exciting religious education program. There are a variety of activities to draw a wide range of members and friends. We would have a minister in partnership with members of the congregation.*

j *To become like the First Unitarian Society of Madison*

j *We have about 150 members in an array of life circumstances; many are families (wide definition) with children. We have elder and college students and wee ones. It's like an extended family with a purpose. We have a building and a minister and are plugged into regional and national UU movements. We have a garden too and nature walk.*

We hope you find these statements both inspirational and thought provoking. Watch for additional statements in upcoming newsletters.



### **AdventUurers News**

Watch your e-mail for announcements of summer AdventUurers events. IF you would like to suggest an activity please contact Liz Spangler ( )

The AdventUurers are UUs getting together to socialize. Activities frequently include theater or music events, but we are always open to other suggestions. We also usually get together for lunch after Sunday services, and may try to get together on some of the "off" Sundays during the summer.

### **Newsletter Editor Seeking Assistance**

*By Christopher Townsend*

I have found many of the ways that I have been involved in the life of this Fellowship to be rewarding, inspiring, and often challenging and growth producing. I have found the time I've spent editing this newsletter to be particularly rewarding, and I feel like I have been able to make a real contribution to our Fellowship in this role. For these reasons, I wish that I could continue editing the newsletter as I have been indefinitely. However, (Isn't there is always a however after a sentence like that?) *however*, somehow the months seem to have gotten shorter recently, and I'm finding myself less able to keep up with the monthly commitment than I was in the past.

Ideally, I would like to find someone who would like to edit the newsletter every other month, to share the editing duties with me, but I would gladly consider any other sharing arrangement that anyone would like to suggest. I am not locked into any specific plan for how shared editorship would work, so if one (or more) people have ideas about ways that they would be willing to assist, I would be like to hear your suggestions. If you are interested please contact Christopher Townsend.

### **Pride Along the Mississippi**

On Saturday August 2, La Crosse area Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals and their friends and allies will put on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual "Pride Along the Mississippi" Pride Fest. Once again our Fellowship will be on hand with a table to hand out our brochures, and to publicly show our support for the Gay and Lesbian community.

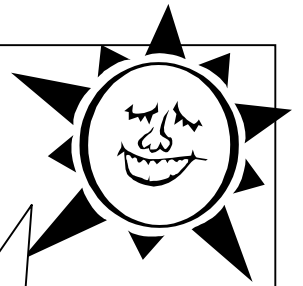
We will be looking for volunteers to staff our table during the day, so watch for sign-up sheets at programs this summer, or if you aren't able to attend any summer programs, contact Christopher Townsend.

For the latest information about the Fest, visit their Web site at [www.lacrossepride.com](http://www.lacrossepride.com). If you would like to find other ways to support the Pride Fest, there are many expenses associated with putting on the Fest, and they greatly appreciate financial contributions. If you are interested, click on the sponsor information on their Web site.

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote:

- j The inherent dignity and worth of every person;
- j Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations;
- j Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- j A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- j The rights of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- j The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- j Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

For the June 22 Marsh Walk, meet at Myrick Park!



**Summer Schedule**

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